

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application, as amended herein. Claims 1-9 and 21-32 were pending in the application. In this amendment, Claims 1-2, 4-7, 9-30 and 32 have been canceled; Claims 3, 8, and 31 have been amended; and no new claims have been added. Therefore, Claims 3, 8, and 31 are pending in the application.

Claims

In the final office action and Advisory action, the Examiner indicated that Claims 3, 8 and 31 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim. As suggested by the Examiner, Applicants have rewritten Claims 3, 8 and 31 in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim, previous Claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that independent Claims 3, 8 and 31 are allowable.

Specification and Drawings

Applicants respectfully request entry of the substitute specification and drawings submitted with previous responses to the final office action. The Examiner had objected to the specification because characters C1-C19 appeared at the beginning of several paragraphs throughout the specification. A substitute specification that includes all the changes previously made in the application, as well as the corrections required by the Examiner, has previously been provided. Five new paragraphs were added to page 11 to clarify the embodiments shown in Figures 2 and 3, as required by the Examiner. The last paragraph on page 18 was also amended to clarify the description of Figure 13.

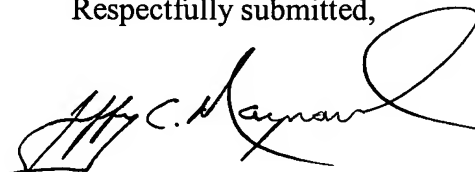
The Examiner had also objected to the drawings because the embodiments shown in Figures 2 and 3 did not have the same features and the same reference character pointed to different components. Figure 2 has been amended so that each adhesive pocket has a separate reference character. Figure 3 has been amended, also, so that each adhesive pocket has a separate reference character. Additionally, Figure 3 has been amended to indicate that the panels are different by including a prime symbol to depict the components that are different in the alternate embodiment. As indicated above, the specification has been changed accordingly to correspond with the drawings.

The Examiner also objected to the drawing Figure 13 because the indication of profiles 42, 43 and profiles 4a, 4b did not seem to be placed correctly in proportion to the panel. Applicant notes, however, that the panel, according to the invention, is a three-dimensional object having a broad flat top and bottom and four narrow sides. Of the four narrow sides, two are long and two are short. In the present invention, profiles 4a, 4b are formed on the short sides and profiles 42, 43 are formed on the long sides. Figure 13 was amended to more clearly indicate that reference characters 67, 68 are for the long sides of the panel. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been entered.

CONCLUSION

Applicants have made a diligent effort to address the objections and rejections identified by the Examiner and respectfully submit that the outstanding objections and rejections in the Final Office Action have been overcome. In view of the above amendments and remarks, all pending claims are believed to be patentable, and thus, the case is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, a Notice of Allowability is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience. In the event that there is any question concerning this response, or the application in general, the Examiner is respectfully urged to telephone the undersigned attorney so that prosecution of the application may be expedited.

Respectfully submitted,

 10/6/06

Date _____

Jeffrey C. Maynard
Reg. No. 46,208
Attorney for Applicants
WHITEFORD, TAYLOR & PRESTON L.L.P.
Seven Saint Paul Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202-1626
Phone: 410-347-9496
Fax: 410-234-2324